

THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL CLUB AND "PAPILIO"

BY HARRY B. WEISS

About eighteen years ago I tried to induce the late William T. Davis to write an account of the New York Entomological Club in view of his possession of the Club minutes. However Mr. Davis never got around to it and after his death the minutes became the property of the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences. Through the kindness of Miss Mabel Abbott, librarian of the Institute I was able to borrow these minutes from which the following account has been partly prepared.

On Sunday afternoon of October 3, 1880, at the home of Wm. B. Neumoegen, 76 West 45th Street, New York City, A. R. Grote, Edward L. Graef, Albert Koebele, Henry Edwards and Berthold Neumoegen met and organized the New York Entomological Club. Mr. Grote was temporary chairman and Edwards temporary secretary. The permanent officers elected were President, Augustus R. Grote, Treasurer, Berthold Neumoegen, and Secretary, Henry Edwards. The name of the society was agreed upon as the New York Entomological Club, and the object was the study of various orders, particularly species of the United States and the publication of papers thereon. The society was to consist of resident, corresponding and honorary members. There were no limits upon the number of corresponding members, but the honorary members were restricted to fifty. All members were to be chosen by ballot and two black balls were sufficient for exclusion. Various resolutions were adopted which served as a sort of constitution. Corresponding and honorary members were exempt from dues and initiation fees. Meetings were to be held twice each month. Messrs. Grote, Neumoegen and Edwards enrolled themselves at once as members of the Club, but Graef and Koebele declined for the time being. Sunday afternoons were selected for meetings and the second meeting was to be at the home of Mr. Edwards, 185 East 116th Street, New York City.

From October 3, 1880, to December 19, 1882, inclusive the Club held thirty-two meetings. The first ten alternated between the homes of Mr. Neumoegen and Mr. Edwards. The remaining

ones all took place at Mr. Edwards' house. In other words, Mr. Neumoegen supplied a meeting place five times and Mr. Edwards, twenty-seven times. From the start until September 1881, two meetings were usually held each month. Beginning with September 1881 only one monthly meeting was held and this practice continued until the end. No meetings were held during July and August. The attendance of resident members ranged from one to nine and averaged about five per meeting. Occasionally there were one or two visitors. There were about twenty active or resident members and these, with the dates of their election, are noted as follows.

October 3, 1880.

B. Neumoegen, 76 West 47th Street, New York.

A. R. Grote, New Brighton, S. I., New York.

Henry Edwards, 185 East 116th Street, New York.

November 14, 1880.

Theo. L. Mead, 674 Madison Ave., New York.

Julius E. Meyer, 61 St. Felix Street, Brooklyn.

Albert Koebele, 419 West 24th Street, New York.

December 12, 1880.

Otto Seifert, 7th Ave., and 24th Street, New York.

January 9, 1881.

William T. Davis, Tompkinsville, S. I., New York.

February 6, 1881.

James Angus, West Farms, New York.

February 20, 1881.

Jacob Doll, 35 Graham Ave., Brooklyn.

March 6, 1881.

Jno. Akhurst, Brooklyn.

S. Bridgham, New York.

April 3, 1881.

S. L. Eliot, 439 East 87th Street, New York.

April 17, 1881.

W. S. C. Putman Cramer, 227 East 93rd Street, New York.

A. W. P. Cramer, 227 East 93rd Street, New York.

May 1, 1881.

W. E. Waters, 103 Fulton Street, New York.

W. Woodworth, Sing Sing, N. Y.

G. H. Van Waggenen, Rye, N. Y.

September 11, 1881.

Mark L. Hubbell, 211 West 23rd Street, New York.

January 29, 1882.

W. Schaus, Jr., 38 West 30th Street, New York.

Instead of writing a general, condensed summary of the minutes of the Club it was thought best to present the more important proceedings, as recorded for particular dates. A large portion of the minutes of many meetings is occupied with lists of entomological publications that were received, and with the names of corresponding members who were elected and of a repetition of their names when they wrote letters of acceptance. These will be excluded from this account.

Meeting of October 17, 1880

Mr. Grote wanted the Club to be worthy of the great city of New York and to have some building devoted to entomology in the forthcoming Exposition of 1883. This was the centennial anniversary of the evacuation of New York by the British. He suggested that collections could be deposited in such a building for study by visiting entomologists and it was the hope of the Club that the type collections of Grote and Edwards might find a home there and be used to foster the study of entomology. Mr. Grote stated that his collection contained nearly 1,500 types of Noctuidæ and Pyralidæ. Franz G. Schaupp who was present as a visitor at this meeting expressed the hope that the Club would eventually consolidate with the Brooklyn Entomology Society. Apparently he never joined the Club. Schaupp, a coleopterist was a prominent member of the Brooklyn society and editor of their Bulletin, and his room on the top floor of Schaeffer's saloon at 9 Broadway, Williamsburg was a favorite meeting place for entomologists around 1873.

Meeting of November 14, 1880

At this time it was decided not to collect dues or initiation fees, pending the adoption of a constitution. In addition it was agreed that the first duty of the Club was to publish a monthly journal of entomology, and a committee on publication consisting of Messrs. Edwards, Mead and Grote was appointed. The name of the journal was decided upon as "Pappilio." Seventeen corresponding members were elected.

Meeting of November 28, 1880

Mr. Mead, reporting for the publication committee, had gotten an estimate from a firm on the cost of printing the transactions of the Club. For 500 copies—14 pages, thick white paper, cover and title (small pica type)—size of page, $10 \times 6\frac{1}{4}$ inches—size of type page, $7 \times 4\frac{1}{8}$ inches—price \$23.00 based on six issues. This figure was accepted and referred to the publication committee.

Upon a motion by Neumoegen, Messrs. Grote and Mead were asked to call upon the trustees of the Central Park Museum to ask about the possibility of their receiving type specimens of insects belonging to the Club or to its members. Mr. Grote read a description of a new species *Catocala dulciola*. Three corresponding members were elected.

The publication committee met after the regular meeting and decided to devote "Papilio" entirely to Lepidoptera at least until future members joined who were interested in other orders. Messrs. Grote, Edwards and Neumoegen agreed to subscribe a sum sufficient to pay the expense of the first three numbers.

Meeting of December 12, 1880

Three corresponding members were elected. Edwards read a paper describing two new forms of Parnassius. The publication committee voted to prepare copy for the first number of "Papilio" and accepted six papers for publication. Mr. Edwards was asked to prepare a brief introduction for the first issue.

Meeting of January 9, 1881

Six corresponding members were elected and the following distinguished entomologists were enrolled as honorary members.

- Lord Walsingham, England
- Arthur G. Butler, British Museum, London
- Dr. O. Staudinger, Dresden
- Dr. C. von Felder, Vienna
- Prof. P. C. Zeller, Prussia
- Dr. A. Speyer, Saxony
- W. J. Macleay, Australian Club, Sydney.
- Alfred Russell Wallace, England
- H. W. Bates, Geographical Society, London

Mr. Grote read a paper on some new species of *Agrotis*.

Meeting of January 23, 1881

Mr. Achille Guénee, of France, was added to the list of honorary members and four corresponding members were elected. Prof. Fernald, a corresponding member was present at this meeting. The secretary had a letter from the editor of "Science" offering to incorporate "Papilio" with his publication but this offer was refused, with thanks. The publication committee presented the first number of "Papilio." Five hundred copies were printed.

Meeting of February 6, 1881

Mr. Tunnison was present as a visitor. To the list of honorary members, the names of Charles Darwin, F.R.S., and Sir John Lubbock were added. Sixteen corresponding members were elected and various papers were read. A letter was read from S. H. Scudder of Boston offering a paper on the life history of *Retina frustrana*, but as this needed illustrations costing \$130.00 of which Scudder offered to pay \$50.00, action was postponed.

Most of the persons who were elected to corresponding and honorary membership accepted and replied gracefully. For example Charles Darwin wrote as follows:

Feb. 21, 1881

Down
Beckenham, Kent.
Railway Station
Orpington

Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of Feb. 7th in which you inform me that the Entomological Club of New York has conferred on me the honour of electing me an honorary member; & I request that you will be so good as to return to the association my sincere thanks.

I remain Dear Sir

Your sincere & obedient servant
Charles Darwin

H. Edwards Esq.
New York Ent.
185 East 116th st.
New York
U. States.

Meeting of February 20, 1881

C. V. Riley and J. Akhurst were present as visitors. John Akhurst was the taxidermist and dealer in entomological supplies of 78 Ashland Place, Brooklyn. His advertisement appeared in the first number of the JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY and for some years later, in succeeding numbers. Eight corresponding members were elected at this time and Mr. Grote presented a paper on new species of Noctuidæ. A "conversation ensued" between Prof. Riley and Mr. Grote relative to variations among certain examples of the genus *Acrobasis*. Messrs. Neumoegen, Edwards and Grote were appointed as a standing committee on all matters relative to the coming "World's Fair" so that the entomological interests of the United States would be presented properly.

Meeting of March 6, 1881

Seven corresponding members were elected and three honorary ones, the latter being Prof. J. O. Westwood, England, Dr. Felipe Poey, Cuba and Dr. Herman C. C. Burmeister, Buenos Aires. Mr. Neumoegen was made a member of the publication committee and a committee on nomenclature consisting of Mead and Edwards was appointed to investigate all doubtful points connected with synonymy. A committee was also appointed to draft a constitution and a set of by-laws, but no further reference to these two committees was ever made later. The secretary reported that he had had 1,000 one-page circulars printed advertising "Papilio." According to this circular "Papilio" was to appear about the 15th of each month, except July and August. The names of distinguished contributions were mentioned and the projectors believed that "Papilio" had "entered upon a long and prosperous existence." The cost was \$2.00 per year and two numbers had already been published. The circular was dated, February, 1881 and signed by the four editors, A. R. Grote, Theo. L. Mead, Hy. Edwards and B. Neumoegen.

Meeting of April 3, 1881

Four corresponding members were elected at this meeting and eight at the meeting of March 20. Mr. Eliot reported the capture of rare Lepidoptera in Central Park and showed a mag-

nificent series of *Papilio philenor* (24 specimens). Mr. Edwards exhibited a new air-tight insect case and also a new collecting bottle contributed by Mr. J. S. Johnson of Philadelphia, the poison vapor being communicated through a perforated floor.

During the course of the next four meetings nine corresponding members were elected, and four honorary members, the latter being as follows:

- H. T. Stainton, England
- H. B. Moeschler, Germany
- P. C. T. Snellen, Rotterdam
- C. R. Ritzema, Leyden

Meeting of June 19, 1881

A letter from B. P. Mann was read in which it was stated that he was about to dispose of the whole of his stock and entomological goods at greatly reduced prices. Two corresponding members were elected. Mr. Edwards showed a series of drawings of Lepidoptera by Emily L. Morton, who had promised Edwards that she would make a plate for "Papilio." Miss Morton's work was greatly admired by the members.

Meeting of September 11, 1881

Prof. C. V. Riley was present as a visitor and exhibited Crambidae and other insects from Georgia which were mostly identified by Mr. Grote. Insects were also shown by Mr. Eliot and Mr. Neumoegen and there was much talk about the abundance of certain species of Lepidoptera during the summer.

Meeting of October 2, 1881

The treasurer reported a considerable deficit and urged new efforts for new subscribers to "Papilio." Mr. Edwards said that business engagements would take him from the city for six weeks and Mr. Grote consented to get out the ninth number of "Papilio." Two corresponding members were elected and there was some conversation about the escape of Prof. Francis H. Snow of Kansas from the hands of Apache Indians during a collecting trip in New Mexico.

Meeting of November 27, 1881

It was reported that Mr. Grote had left suddenly for Europe and would return around February, 1882. Three correspond-

ing members were elected and a "conversation ensued" about the many personalities contained in an article by Grote that was published in the last number of "Papilio." In this article the Rev. George D. Hulst and Mr. Herman Strecker were attacked by the writer. The members thought that the publication of such a paper was unjustified. Mr. Grote had acted without conferring with anyone or with the publication committee. It was decided that personalities should be excluded.

Meeting of December 11, 1881

Four corresponding members elected, and a discussion about Lepidoptera took place. A letter was read, from C. A. Blake of Philadelphia referring to some naphthaline cones prepared by him for preserving specimens in cabinets. The members agreed to order a quantity for experimental use. A letter from Rev. G. D. Hulst was read after which a recess was taken. The meeting was again called to order and a resolution was adopted empowering the secretary to alter and modify Mr. Hulst's letter of rejoinder to Mr. Grote so as to omit all personalities. The modified letter was to be sent to Mr. Hulst and if satisfactory to him, it was to be published immediately. If Mr. Hulst's original rejoinder was printed the secretary was to publish in the same number of "Papilio" all the evidence in his possession relative to the dispute, over the names of *Catocalas*, between Strecker and Grote, in which it was charged that Hulst was the mouthpiece of Strecker.

The secretary in his yearly report reviewed the activities of the Club which then had nineteen active members, seventeen honorary members, and ninety-one corresponding members. Outstanding entomologists all over the world were selected and elected as corresponding members. Many of them, of course, became subscribers to "Papilio" and I am of the opinion that the Club had this in mind when the selections were made. Except for the entomologists who corresponded regularly with Edwards, Grote, Neumoegen and perhaps a few other members, most of the corresponding members had nothing to correspond about and so far as recorded in the minutes of the Club their only correspondence as the acceptance of the honor of becoming a corresponding member.

At this time "Papilio" had 100 subscribers, with a promise of six more. Mr. Edwards reported at this meeting on the success of the journal and of his plans for the future, and also stated that Grote had gone to Europe because of ill health. The number of copies of "Papilio" printed monthly was 500, of which 200 were kept in reserve. However it was believed that a printing of 350 would be ample.

Mr. Neumoegen reporting, as treasurer, said that the position of the treasury was not good. Revenues from January 1 to December 1, 1881 amounted to \$194.46. Printing and other expenses totalled \$415.73. This left the Club in debt to Mr. Neumoegen for \$221.27. A long "conversation ensued" upon the subject of finances and it was resolved to pay off the indebtedness by voluntary contributions from members. Those present agreed to pay the following amounts:

B. Neumoegen	\$50.00
Hy. Edwards	15.00
A. W. Cramer	10.00
J. Akhurst	10.00
S. L. Eliot	10.00
Jacob Doll	10.00
W. Woodworth	5.00
Otto Seifert	10.00
Another source	25.00
	<u>\$145.00</u>

For the balance of \$76.00 still owing to Mr. Neumoegen, the secretary was instructed to canvass other members.

Meeting of January 8, 1882

At this meeting the secretary reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. W. H. Edwards complaining of the numerous errors in the Checklist of Lepidoptera which had been published in the "Bulletin of the Brooklyn Entomological Society" and offering to submit a corrected list to "Papilio," the reprints of which might be sold by the Club for fifty cents per copy. This proposal was deferred and never again referred to in the minutes—sharing the same fate as the proposed constitution and by-laws and several other proposals.

A new estimate for printing 350 copies per month of "Papilio" was received. The new charge for a 20-page journal including covers was to be \$22.50 per month and \$1.25 for each additional page. Mr. Edwards proposed that "Papilio" carry advertising and the members agreed to help in soliciting "ads."

Meetings January 29 to December 19, 1882

The minutes of the remaining nine meetings contain little of interest. During this period only one active member was admitted and only four corresponding members were elected. Mr. Edwards presented a paper on butterflies taken in Arizona by Jacob Doll. Mr. Schaus exhibited a fine collection of Mexican Lepidoptera collected by himself near Vera Cruz. On March 5, 1882 Mr. Neumoegen reported that President Grote had returned from Europe and the secretary was instructed to write to him expressing gratitude at his return and wishing for his speedy recovery to good health. Mr. Neumoegen exhibited Lepidoptera. At the May 28, 1882 meeting only Edwards and Akhurst were present. On June 18, 1882, although six members were present, little activity was recorded and the Club adjourned subject to the call of the president or secretary. On October 15, 1882, Edwards, Akhurst and Neumoegen appeared, but as there was no quorum, no business was transacted. At the next two meetings, October 29 and December 19, 1882 only the secretary Mr. Edwards was present and from then on, the record is blank, and the New York Entomological Club came to an end.

The minutes of all meetings are signed "Hy. Edwards, Hon. Sec'y." Apparently the members paid no dues as neither the reports of the secretary nor those of the treasurer mention receipts from such a source. Of course more conversation went on at the meetings than was recorded in the minutes or than is indicated in the summaries that have been presented. And at the early meetings it was customary for Edwards and Grote to read descriptions of new species that were intended for publication in "Papilio."

The most active members of the New York Entomological Club were Henry Edwards, B. Neumoegen, A. R. Grote, John Akhurst, Theo. L. Mead, S. L. Eliot and A. W. P. Cramer. At least their attendance records indicate active interest. Of the

thirty-two meetings held during the Club's brief existence, Henry Edwards the secretary was present at all of them. Neumoegen attended twenty-three meetings, Akhurst twenty including the four times he was present as a visitor, A. R. Grote sixteen, T. L. Mead eleven, A. W. P. Cramer thirteen, Eliot ten. Koebele attended six, Davis five, Doll five, Seifert seven and the balance of the members each showed up from one to four times. Graef attended four as a visitor. At the time the Club was organized in 1880, the approximate ages of some of the most active members and visitors were—Edwards fifty, Grote thirty-nine, Graef thirty-eight, Neumoegen thirty-five, Seifert thirty-two, Koebele twenty-eight, Schaus twenty-two, Davis eighteen.

Considering the smallness of the Club a singularly large proportion of the members had either already achieved distinction as entomologists, or did so later. Augustus Radcliffe Grote started his entomological activities around 1862, and became an extensive author, describing over 1,000 new species of Lepidoptera, especially North American Noctuidæ. His collection was sold to the British Museum. At the time of his death in Germany in 1903 he was director of the Roman Museum. Berthold Neumoegen who spoke five or six languages fluently was in business as a banker and broker at 40 Exchange Place, New York City. He was enthusiastic about Lepidoptera and began collecting around 1874. He described many new species and wrote papers in conjunction with H. G. Dyar. At one time he employed Jacob Doll to work on his collection. Henry Edwards or Hy. Edwards as he signed all the minutes of the Club and his various writings, was well known as an actor and lepidopterist. In 1879 he was hired by Lester Wallack as a member of his stock company and became stage manager of the theatre. He traveled extensively in South America, Australia, and the United States as an actor and was a student of Pacific coast Lepidoptera and North American Aegeridæ. He had numerous friends and correspondents.

Otto Seifert was a prosperous druggist of New York City who was interested in the Arctiidæ and who published on this family. His collection was purchased by the New York Ento-

mological Society and presented to the American Museum of Natural History. John Akhurst, as has been noted, was a taxidermist and dealer in butterflies and entomological supplies of Brooklyn. Edward Louis Graef was in business at 58 Court Street, Brooklyn for 50 years as an importer of wines, and the first treasurer of the Brooklyn Entomological Society when it was organized in 1876 in Prof. Franz G. Schaupp's rooms at the foot of Broadway, Williamsburg. Both Graef and Grote while boys attended Prof. Joseph Deghuée's school in Brooklyn 1853-1858 and formed a friendship that lasted many years. Both were interested in Lepidoptera. His collection of 10,000 specimens of Lepidoptera, including about 80 types based on his own descriptions in the early volumes of the Brooklyn "Bulletin," was given to the Brooklyn Museum in 1900.

William Schaus made extensive contributions to the knowledge of world Lepidoptera and described numerous new species from South America. At one time he was Honorary Curator of Lepidoptera in the United States National Museum. Albert Koebele attracted the attention of Prof. C. V. Riley in 1881, while Riley was attending a meeting of the Brooklyn Entomological Society. Riley was impressed by the beautiful condition of Koebele's specimens and as a result he offered him a job. Koebele went to Washington early in 1882, where he first worked in the office and later in the field. In November 1882 he was sent to Brazil to investigate pests of cotton and later to California to experiment with washes against the cottony cushion scale of orange. While in Australia in 1888 he found the ladybird *Vedalia cardinalis* that was introduced with success into California as an enemy of the cottony cushion scale on orange. This discovery and subsequent successful introduction made Koebele's reputation. In 1893 he was made entomological expert for the Department of Agriculture and Forestry of Hawaii. He then investigated the insect fauna of Hawaii and visited Australia, New Zealand and other countries for predators and parasites that might prove useful in Hawaii. His work in biological control was extensive. He pioneered in this field and made numerous contributions to the technique of handling and shipping such material. With the exception of Henry Edwards who was born in England, all the entomologists who have just

been noted, from Grote to Koebele inclusive, were born in Germany. In conclusion mention should be made of Theodore L. Mead, a son-in-law of William H. Edwards, who accompanied the Denver party of the Wheeler Survey during the summer of 1871. The material that he collected was determined and described by his father-in-law W. H. Edwards. In the June 1934 number of the JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, F. Martin Brown wrote on "The Localities of T. L. Mead's Collection of Butterflies from Colorado in 1871," tracing the localities for Edwards' types and a schedule of Mead's travels, from a study of Mead's Report of the Wheeler Survey and other sources.

"Papilio: The Organ of the New York Entomological Club" was published by the Club during the years 1881 and 1882. It was devoted exclusively to Lepidoptera during its entire short life. Its size was $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Volume I (11 numbers) ran to 244 pages and volume II (10 numbers) to 189 pages. Henry Edwards was the editor of these two volumes. In fact Edwards also edited volume III (10 numbers, 193 pages) but after the cessation of the activities of the Club at the end of 1882, the wording "Organ of the New York Entomological Club" disappeared from the title page and apparently Edwards was both editor and publisher of "Papilio" during 1883. In a delayed notice to the subscribers, written by Edwards June 10, 1884, after he had completed the index to volume III, he wrote of the foundation of the Club three years before and of the intense enthusiasm of the promoters of "Papilio." After a little while the excitement abated and Edwards was gradually saddled with all the editorial work as well as being secretary of the Club. In addition to proofreading he had to go to the printer's place a distance of about fifty blocks four or five times each month and he even folded and mailed the numbers. Added to this was the burden of a heavy correspondence, all on top of the duties of his profession. In view of this he was compelled to relinquish the journal and take a personal loss of \$200.00 upon the three volumes. As he still had back numbers on hand he was willing to sell the three volumes for \$5.00 a set. The subscription price per volume had been \$2.00.

The fourth and last volume of "Papilio" (1884) appeared under the editorship of Eugene M. Aaron of Philadelphia with George B. Cresson (eldest son of E. T. Cresson) as "Entomological Printer." In the January 1884 issue of the journal Edwards wrote a notice to the subscribers in which he asked them to transfer their support to his good friend Mr. Aaron who was "eminently fitted for the task" of running "Papilio" and cited as a reason for his withdrawal, the pressure of business engagements. However Mr. Aaron had not taken over a flourishing magazine as he shortly discovered. In the May 1884 issue Mr. Aaron complained that up to June 1, less than 45 per cent of the subscribers had paid their subscriptions. This was discouraging and Mr. Aaron found that he was \$100.00 poorer after the year's work was only half done, and after he had given the magazine many hours of time taken from profitable employment. When he sent out bills, to those who had not paid by March 15, answers were received only from 17 per cent and almost half of these cancelled their subscriptions. He compares this condition with the comparatively large number of European subscribers among which there was only one debtor. He finally predicted that "Papilio" would cease at the end of 1884, and was of the opinion that his editorial labors were for the most part undervalued and largely thrown away.

In the September 1884 issue a notice states that the Brooklyn Entomological Society will consider the advisability of taking over "Papilio" and publishing it in connection with their "Bulletin." At this time Mr. Aaron said that of its 250 subscribers, less than 100 had paid for the journal. His personal loss then amounted to \$200.00 and, unless the Brooklyn Society took over, "Papilio" would stop with the December 1884 number.

In the November 1884 issue (Nos. 9 and 10), p. 187, the editor, Mr. Aaron, said that the question of publishing an American magazine devoted to entomology was discussed by the Entomological Club of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at their meeting in Philadelphia, last September. A committee which included the editors of "Psyche," "The Bulletin of the Brooklyn Entomological Society" and "Papilio" reported adversely, not so much on account of their dis-

approval as on account of their disinclination to commit the Club to what they believed would turn out as a failure. Even before this meeting the doom of "Papilio" had been sealed because of the failure of subscribers to pay their just debts. The representatives of the Brooklyn Society advised Mr. Aaron that they were ready to publish a monthly journal devoted to general entomology provided "Papilio" would discontinue and give its subscription list to the new publication. To this Mr. Aaron agreed immediately. Between the time the agreement was made and the publication of Mr. Aaron's comments in the November 1884 issue of "Papilio," two numbers of "Entomologia Americana" had been published by the Brooklyn Society.

During its brief existence "Papilio" carried various articles devoted to the Lepidoptera, descriptions of new species, notes, larval habits, discussions of nomenclature, etc., many by well-known authors in the field of descriptive entomology. The first two volumes included several colored plates, but nothing of the sort appeared in the last two, probably because neither Mr. Edwards or Mr. Aaron were willing to spend more of their money on a losing venture.

In volume I, number 9, October, 1881 of "Papilio" may be found the article by A. R. Grote on "New Moths from Arizona, with Remarks on *Catocala* and *Heliothis*" which proved so embarrassing to the publication committee of the New York Entomological Club because of its personal criticisms of Herman Strecker and George D. Hulst, to which the latter objected. Of Strecker, Grote wrote that his work was of "such an indifferent character" that he (Grote) was unwilling to criticize it. "He (Strecker) has made proportionately more and more unexcusable synonyms than any other writer, and his slovenly descriptions and confessed unacquaintance with structure place him on a level with the worst amateur who has 'coined' a 'species.' In vulgarity and misrepresentation he is, fortunately, without a rival. No amount of 'industry' or 'facility with the pencil' can condone his conduct." As for Hulst, Grote in referring to a paper on *Catocala* by Hulst, which appeared in the "Bulletin of the Brooklyn Entomological Society," said that its publication was "entirely unnecessary from a scientific point of view." . . .

“Neither from the literary or biological point of view did the author possess sufficient information to warrant his writing extendedly upon the subject.” . . . “Mr. Hulst prefers, for instance, the name *Amestris* to *Anna*, on the ground ‘that’ one is ‘strictly Catocaline’ (?), while the other is ‘not.’ It appears from this that ‘Catocaline’ is a new euphemism for loose behavior, and that the Rev. Mr. Hulst approves the names of Swinburne’s heroines being applied to a group of moths whose conduct is no worse, so far as I have observed, than their neighbors. To prefer the ‘strange woman’ to a prophetess is singular taste in a clergyman.” Mr. Hulst’s reply without personalities appeared in the December 1881 number of “*Papilio*” under the title “Some Remarks Upon Catocalæ, in Reply to Mr. A. R. Grote,” and beneath this reply the publication committee added a note regretting that “anything like personalities” should have crept into “*Papilio*.” Grote’s paper was printed while the editor was absent from the city and it was stated that no further personal remarks should again be permitted in “*Papilio*.” The entire controversy of course was due to a difference of opinion between specialists.

In volume III of “*Papilio*,” the amusing controversy between Prof. C. V. Riley and A. R. Grote and W. H. Edwards appeared relative to the capitalization of specific names. Riley wrote to the editor asking upon what grounds and for what purpose had American lepidopterists adopted the “vicious” habit of capitalizing the specific names of their insects. W. H. Edwards, who answered for the editor admitted being a sinner in this respect and asked “if some sort of function attached to the office of Entomologist in Chief at Washington” made it his duty “to have an eye to entomological obliquities of all sorts.” He said that his purpose was not wicked and that the Professor might rest in peace. And in addition the usage was not new, having been indulged in by Linnæus, Fabricius and Kirby. If Riley believed the old way to be vicious, then he (W. H. Edwards) could say with just as much reason, that the new way was “vile.” To this and to the replies of Grote and Kirby, Prof. Riley answered in a lengthy paper, in which he apparently had the last word.

I cannot find any evidence indicating that there was any con-

nection between the New York Entomological Club and the New York Entomological Society. The former went out of existence at the end of 1882 and the latter was organized June 29, 1892. In the Proceedings of the NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY for May 5, 1936, printed in the JOURNAL, volume 45 (2): p. 259, Mr. W. T. Davis is credited with saying that the Club started in 1880 and was incorporated in 1893. The Club was never incorporated at all and it was the Society that was incorporated in that year. In the same Proceedings it is further recorded that "Grote," present at the meeting, stated that the Club started when the New Yorkers rebelled at the idea of going to Brooklyn to attend the meetings of the Brooklyn Entomological Society. Mr. "Grote" said that he was president in 1902 and 1903, after having been treasurer for several previous years. Mr. "Grote" was not present at the May 5, 1936 meeting, having died in Germany, September 12, 1903. However Mr. C. F. Groth (not Grote) was present and the statements he made are true not for the New York Entomological Club, but for the NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY. This confusion probably resulted from the fact that the secretary who recorded the proceedings thought that the Club and the Society were synonymous. I suppose the editor of the JOURNAL should have caught these errors, but as a matter of fact, he was not familiar with the history of the Club at the time they were made.

Some of the former members of the Club joined the NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY. In the lists of members of the Society printed in the JOURNAL vol. 12, p. 192, 1904, and vol. 13, p. 52, 1905 may be found the names of W. T. Davis, Jacob Doll, Otto Seifert, and Edward L. Graef. Other members of the Club may also have belonged to the Society previous to 1904. In any event papers by A. R. Grote, William Schaus, and B. Neumoegen appeared in its JOURNAL between 1893 and 1898.

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